

Friday 13th September 2024

Principal's Messages:

It has been another busy week at Leighton. The children have been busy learning about democracy and we have now elected School Council representatives for each class. They were awarded their pin badges for their ties in assembly this morning. Applications for Y5 Head Pupils and Y5/6 Pupil Leader roles are now open. The closing date for applications is Friday 20th September. If your child would like to apply and has not yet done so, please ask them to collect an application form from their class teacher.



This week's awards:

Well done to Arianna Tucker who was nominated for Principal's Award by Mrs Johnson for a positive start to Y3 and showing commitment and enthusiasm in every subject.

This week's 'Stronger Together' awards went to 1J and 4W for excellent examples of working hard and being kind. The classes will decide on a reward together.

Mrs Thompson



Attendance Matters

Here are our attendance figures for this week

Our school target:	96%	
Overall school attendance this week:	93.93%	
Overall school attendance this year:	94.31%	
RB – 95.17%	2S – 99.26% ★	5F – 98.92%
RD – 92.55%	3J – 98.15%	5S – 91.67%
1J – 94.2%	3P – 95.7%	6E – 92.96%
1L – 91.67%	4S – 93.94%	6H – 97.32%
2P – 94.44%	4W – 89.44%	



For more information regarding attendance and punctuality; including term time absences and our policies, please see our webpage:

<http://www.leightonacademy.com>

MHST Drop-In

Come along for an informal chat with the Mental Health Support Team.

- Concerns about your child's mental health or wellbeing such as anxiety, low mood, phobias or general worries
- How we are supporting your school with whole school/class approach to mental health and wellbeing
- Updates about what our service is offering
- Information about our parenting groups for anxiety and challenging behaviour
- Support with sleep difficulties



Thursday 26th September,
2024 14.15-15.15 at Leighton
Academy.
Please speak to Mrs Schofield
if you would like an informal
10-minute slot to speak to a
member of the team or to
come along.

Helping people to be
the best they can be

School Meals

If your child is not entitled to a free school meal, please log onto their Arbor account to pay for their meal in advance of their order.

School meals are £2.35 per day.



Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Red Option	Margherita Pizza with Baked Potato Wedges	Hot Dog with Baked Potato Wedges	Roast Turkey with Roast Potato & Gravy	Chicken & Tomato Pasta Bake	All Day Breakfast
Yellow Option	Creamy Tomato Pasta	Vegetarian Hot Dog with Baked Potato	Vegan Sausage with Roast Potato &	Tomato & Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake	Vegetarian All Day Breakfast
Green Option	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato
Orange Option	Sandwich Selection	Sandwich Selection	Sandwich Selection	Sandwich Selection	Sandwich Selection
Desserts	Raspberry Buns	Chocolate Crunch	Lemon Cake	Ginger Biscuit	Ice Cream
	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt
Seasonal Vegetables and Salad Bar					

2024 – 2026



Rights Respecting Schools

UNITED KINGDOM



Bronze Rights Committed

Leighton Academy's Rights Respecting Schools Monthly Update - September

Welcome to our first monthly update about our Rights Respecting Schools. We achieved our Bronze Award in September last year and over the last year, we have been looking at and learning about the Rights of the child using the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child. We are now working towards our Silver Award.

Did you know that on September 21st it is The International Day of Peace? Every year the theme changes and this year it is, Cultivating a Culture of Peace.

To learn about this, we will be looking at what peace means and what it means to our children, read stories and complete activities based on our learning.

We also look at Articles 38 and 39 from the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC).



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CROSS-PLATFORM SHARING OF INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Creepy characters like Slender Man or Huggy Wuggy. Dangerous online challenges. Songs or videos that aren't suitable for youngsters. When things like these begin trending online, it can be difficult to prevent children accidentally stumbling across them – especially if they use a range of platforms, like online games, social media, streaming sites or messaging apps. A trend can originate in one online space and rapidly spread to other platforms or via chat apps. The frightening Huggy Wuggy character, for instance, first emerged as part of a game on Steam; now there are parody songs on TikTok, videos on YouTube and more than 45,000 results for #huggywuggy on Instagram.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNSUITABLE VIDEOS AND IMAGES

Anyone can upload footage to a video-sharing platform, which has resulted in clips that appear age-appropriate but actually aren't so innocent. The audience for Peppa Pig, for instance, is very young – but there have been reports of Peppa cartoons with extreme violence spliced into them. Likewise, footage of the razor-toothed game character Huggy Wuggy has been inserted into numerous child-friendly videos (even on YouTube kids), scaring many young viewers.

INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE

On a similar theme, there is always the possibility that user-uploaded video content could include language which really isn't suitable for children. The on-screen imagery may look child friendly, but if your child is wearing headphones, then you'll remain unaware of what is being said: some videos have featured songs containing explicit language or characters graphically describing violence.

COPIES OF LIVE STREAMS

Social media and messaging apps can inadvertently spread extremely harmful content very quickly. Footage of violent attacks (such as the recent Buffalo supermarket shootings) can often be viewed on multiple platforms as people start to share the video. Moderators try to react swiftly to remove upsetting content, but the rate at which it goes viral makes it difficult to prevent the spread completely.

ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE

Even if your child doesn't have access to social media platforms or video-streaming platforms (where the majority of issues arise), they might still use messaging apps to communicate with family and friends. There is always going to be a risk, therefore, of them seeing something which isn't child friendly: either shared by one of their peers or sent accidentally by a relative.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE SAFETY FEATURES

Enable safety settings like Google SafeSearch and the optional restrictions on video-sharing platforms like YouTube. Whenever possible, stick to YouTube Kids for young children, as the software will help to filter out unsuitable content. Remember that filters aren't always enough to block all inappropriate material – especially when child-friendly videos have been edited maliciously.

LESS IS BEST

Manage the number of online platforms your child has access to, based on their age and maturity. Just because their friends use a certain game or app, it doesn't mean your child must have it too. Follow the age guidelines for games and apps, and check regularly that privacy settings are in place.

KEEP IT COMMUNAL

Encourage your child to stay in a communal family space when they're watching videos or playing online games on their devices – without headphones, if possible. This will make it far easier for you to keep one eye (and ear) on what they're seeing and hearing while they're online.

AVOID FAN-MADE CONTENT

If your child watches cartoons and shows on YouTube, spend time with them making a playlist of videos that you're comfortable with them watching. Always source videos from official channels, as opposed to fan-made content: you can never be completely confident about material that another user has created or uploaded.

REACT CALMLY

If you hear or see anything unsuitable on your child's device, calmly ask them to turn off the game or video in question. Explain that they haven't done anything wrong, but that you didn't like what you saw or heard and you would much rather they watched or played something else instead.

SUPPORT AND REASSURE

Remind your child regularly that *anyone* can post anything online – and that not everything online is real. If your child is sent something that scares or worries them, ask them to show you. Watch it alone (to avoid unnerving them further), then praise them for coming to you and talk about what upset them. Recommend a break from their device to do something which helps them feel calm and happy.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government, comparing the internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS
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#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: https://www.wikiipedia.com/wiki/Parenting/YouTube_fall-makes-peppa-swear-like-a-scorpion; <https://www.fox.com/news/story/36049626/2023/03/03/36049626/>



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